[25th March 1929

(*b*) (i) the number of villages in each of the firkas comprised in the Bellary and Adoni Taluk Board areas; (ii) the number of polling stations fixed by the president of each taluk board in connexion with the election of members to it; and (iii) the number of villages allotted for each of the polling stations?

A.—(*a*) (i) There is no fixed number of villages or specified area for which at least one polling station should be opened. The criterion in fixing such stations is the convenience of the electors. As a guide, Collectors and Returning Officers have been instructed to consider the desirability of opening additional polling stations where villages lie outside a five-mile radius from the station to which they are allotted under the existing distribution.

(ii) The Government have not issued any instructions on the point. Under the rules for the election of members of taluk boards, polling stations are fixed by presidents of taluk boards.

(iii) There should be at least one polling station for each Revenue Inspector's firka.

(*b*) (i) to (iii) A statement [a] furnishing the information is appended.

Administration Reports

Administration reports under the hon. the Minister for Public Health.

* 1848 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased—

(i) to place before the Council a statement showing—

(*a*) the administration reports of the several departments under his control for the years 1927–28 and 1928–29;

(*b*) the months in which they were published with reviews; and

(ii) to state whether any, and if so, what steps have been taken to place them before the public at an early date?

A.—(*i*) (*a*) & (*b*) A statement [b] is appended. Reports for 1928–29 are due only after the close of March 1929.

(*ii*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No 1841.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"May I know why there is so much delay in supplying Members of Legislative Councils with copies of these reports even after their publication?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I think that Members of the Legislative Council are supplied with these reports as soon as possible."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"The reviews on these reports appear in the papers earlier and we Members do not receive copies for some 10 or 12 days afterwards. May I know whether the Government cannot take steps to supply them to us quicker?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I shall see that hon. Members get these reports at the same time as the Newspaper Press."

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 782–783 infra.

[b] Printed as Appendix III on page 783 infra.